House Resolution No. 720

Whereas, Melvin C. Kasten, M.D., F.A.C.S., an esteemed resident of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, will be honored for his contributions to the Cape Girardeau community during the Cape Girardeau County Lincoln Days Celebration to be held March 8, 2003; and

Whereas, Dr. Kasten has compiled an enviable list of service to the Cape Girardeau community through his unwavering support of such organizations as the Cape Girardeau Chamber of Commerce, St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Little League, the Lions Club, and the Cape Girardeau City Council; and

Whereas, a staunch Republican and ardent member of the Republican Party, Dr. Kasten has been active in such political endeavors as the Reagan-Bush Physicians Committee from 1980 to 1984, the Republican Senate Inner Circle, and the elections of numerous local, state, and national Republican candidates for the past nineteen years; and

Whereas, Dr. Kasten's other notable affiliations include the American Medical Association, the Missouri State Medical Association, American Society Law and Medicine, the American College of Surgeons, the American Board of Surgery, the Royal Society of Medicine, the Southwestern Surgical Society, Southeast Missouri Hospital, St. Francis Medical Center, Missouri Delta Community Hospital, Perry County Memorial Hospital, the American Academy of Medical Directors, and the Emergency Medicine Advisory Committee, to which he was appointed by Governor John Ashcroft in 1988; and

Whereas, the son of John and Ardina Kasten, Dr. Kasten was born in Jackson, Missouri, on May 9, 1924, attended Southeast Missouri State University, dutifully served his country in the United States Air Force as a First Lieutenant from 1943-1945, and received his B.S. in Medicine from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1949 and his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Pittsburgh in 1951; and

Whereas, a retired surgeon, Dr. Kasten has been abundantly blessed with the love and admiration of a wonderful family whose members include his devoted wife of fifty-three years, Mary C. Kasten, who will also be honored during the Lincoln Days Celebration; his three children, Mark, Michael, and Margaret "Meg"; and his nine grandchildren:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Kasten at this proud moment of well-deserved distinction; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Dr. Melvin C. Kasten.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker